CHERRY COUNTY INDEPENDENT

VALENTINE, NEB.

JAS. R. FARRIS, F. W. HAWKES, } EDITORS & PUBLISHERS

DRAMATIC DOINGS.

WHAT PLAYERS, PLAYWRIGHTS AND MANAGERS ARE DOING.

The Second of the Great American Tragedians—Booth's Enchanting Elocution—Johnson's Narrow Escape from a Sympathetic Audience—At Home and Abroad.

Thomas Betterton.

THE second of the great tragedians is Thomas Betterton, but a gulf of over half a century of time lies between them. Soon after Burbage's death the stage fell on evil days. During the early part of the time of Puritan supremacy in the nation the theaters fell into disrepute, and later on they were closed altogether In 1660, though, at the restoration of the Stuarts, forty-one years after the demise of Burbage, they were reopened. It was then that Betterton appeared on the scene. He found the stage degraded and the public taste deteriorated, but he quickly improved both. He took the leading tragic parts in such of Shakspeare's plays as the depraved tastes of the time tolerated as well as the chief roles in the plays of Beaumont and Fletcher and Dryden, all of which were more popular than Shakspeare's in that age. Associated with him in some of his plays were Mrs. Bracegirdle, Mrs. Barry, Mrs. Sanderson, the latter of whom he eventually married, and other great lights in the history of the stage in the latter part of the seventeenth century. Fortunately we have the testimony of many competent eye-witnesses as to Betterton's qualities. Pepys says he was the "best actor in the world," and Isaac Pickerstaff called him the "English Roscius." Colly Cibber, the English playwright, manager and actor, who was a better authority than either, said that Betterton "could vary his spirit to the character he played. Those wild, impatient starts, that fierce and flashing fire which he threw into Hotspur, never came from the unruffled temper of his Brutus; when the Betterton Brutus was provoked, in his dispute with Cassius, his spirit flew only to his eye; his steady look alone supplied that terror which he disdained an intemperance in his voice should rise to." It is said that Hart, who went before Betterton, but of whom we have scanty records, was a better Othello, but in Hamlet, Lear and Romeo Betterton was superior to all the tragedians who lived close to his time. Cibber says of the ghost scene that Betterton as Hamlet "opened with a pause of mute amazement; then rising slowly to a solemn, trembling voice, he made the Ghost equally terrible to the spectator as to himself." Even when past 70 years of age Betterton was a great Hamlet, and he said himself that at that time he was only just beginning to learn the histronic art. His last appearance on the stage was in 1710, when he was 75 years of age, when he took the leading part in one of the minor tragedies, and three days later he was dead.

Mounted on Taurus.

"I once rode ten miles on the back of a bull," said R. M. Johnston, a retired actor, as he sat in front of the Richelieu, and thoughtfully removed the old-gold overcoat from a corpulent banana. "I was traveling through Georgia in 1866, playing Claude Melnotte in the 'Lady of Lyons.' Society was a trifle crude in the Goober State in the years immediately succeeding the war, and we not infrequently had trouble with our patrons, who insisted on taking us out in the middle of an act and setting up the 'red licker' if we chanced to please them, and had no hesitancy about coming on the stage and making trials of the heroine a personal matter if the heavy villain appeared to be getting the best of the deal. One night the crowd got the idea that I was not treating Pauline exactly right and a committee of six or seven came up to see about it. I attempted to expostulate, but it didn't go. They said I accused Pauline of being 'stuck up,' that 'Paully was a good gal, and they wouldn't allow any sawed-off little dude in ginger-bread togs to abuse her.' Well, sir, they began to shoot and I began to move. The hall was over a grocery store and saloon. I jumped through a back window and the gang began to pile down-stairs. I was a trifle fat and somewhat scant of breath, and knew that in a sprinting match I would stand no show. Tethered to an oak tree a few rods away was a big brindled bull, with a rope rein attached to a ring in his nose. Some countryman had ridden Taurus in to see the show. There was no time for hesitation. I mounted the bull, attired in my stage dress, and lit down street, with half a dozen men shooting at me and all the dogs and pickaninnies of the village in hot pursuit. The bull was a good roadster; some of the bullets had stung him, and he just put his head down, his tail up, and did his level best, emitting a plaintive bellow every few roads that sounded like a fog-horn off Newfoundland. He ran at least ten miles before he wore himself out. Then I crawled into a fodder-shock and waited until the wagons of the great Johnsonian Dramatic came by next day."—Globe-Democrat.

Booth's Reading of Holy Writ.

Early in the twenties the elder Booth visited his friend, Col. Josiah Jones, in Providence. Many visitors flocked to the house to see and converse with the eccentric actor. One Sunday evening when the parlor was filled with company—mostly religious people who were unaccustomed to attend the theater, but none the less desirous of witnessing the effect which he was capable of producing by his skill in elocution—Col. Jones asked him to read some selections for the gratification of the visitors. He yielded assent and desired that a Bible be brought. He was provided with one, and opening it with reverence he chose a passage and began to read. As his impressive voice was heard every other sound was hushed. The words continued to flow from the lips of the reader; sobs were occasionally heard, and when he concluded scarcely one in the room was not weeping. All testified that never before had the sublimity of the language of Holy Writ been made apparent to them; and Booth seized the opportunity to descant on the frame of mind in which the Scriptures should be approached, and to condemn the soulless readings of those pastors who read as an unwelcome task to listless hearers the awful revelations of their Maker.

Making Money from Theater-Passes.

The story of an indignant audience, exasperated beyond endurance at the worthlessness of a play, shouting out with one voice, "Give us back our orders," has a new significance today. A correspondent points out that a bundle of printed orders may be to the wily manager a profitable sort of investment. The holder of the "paper" for the gallery is told the place is full. He pays the difference to the pit.

The pit is full, so the pit order is transferred to the boxes, with a supplement, and so on to the stalls. With these differences the theater is kept open on the order system. The best sower of "paper" in the old days was one Humphrey K. Barrett, acting manager to Fechter at the Lyceum and an old theatrical hand.

In every district in London he had ladies ready dressed in small scarlet cloaks, tippets with swansdown trimmings and Berlin gloves. Ready dressed also were swains ready to accompany them. As occasion required these people were sent for in batches to fill a house. They were called "Humphs."—London Telegraph.

Annals of the Stage.

Samuel Foote's first appearance was in Othello, in 1744.

CHARLES MACKLIN first appeared in small parts in 1730.

MACKLIN made the character of Shylock famous in 1741.

CALDERON'S first plays were represented at Madrid in 1723.

LOPEZ DE VEGA'S first drama was put on the boards in 1682.

QUIN'S first appearance on the stage as a star was in 1716.

LOPEZ DE VEGA'S wrote 1,800 plays and 400 interludes and farces.

BARTON BOOTH made his first appearance in Oronooko, in 1707.

GARRICK first appeared at Drury Lane in 1742: farewell, 1776: death, 1779.

GARRICK made his first star appearance as Richard III. in London, 1741.

ONE of the greatest of early Hamlets was Thomas Betterton, about 1680.

The Olio.

THE show biz is big in Chicago this season.

THEY have a permanent winter circus in Philadelphia.

ELEANOR BARRY has secured a divorce from Bury Dasent in San Francisco.

MRS. WILLIAM MORRIS (Nettie Hawkins) has presented her husband with a son and heir.

JOHN WARREN has retired as manager of Nat Goodwin and has been succeeded by Mr. Appleton.

JACOB LITT and Thomas H. Davis will expend over $10,000 on the scenic equipment of "In Old Kentucky."

"THE Actor's Holiday," when it takes the road next season, will have one of the finest casts ever seen in a farce comedy.

THE Bell Boy Company went to pieces in Troy, Mo., and the poor actors walked back to St. Louis, many a weary mile.

L. C. JONES, formerly manager of Newton Beers' "Lost in London" company, is gradually recovering his health. Mr. Jones was confined to his room at Bridgeport, Conn., nearly two years, but is now able to get about on crutches.

MISS MAUDE ADAMS, whose delicate and judicious portraiture of a tipsy scene in "The Masked Ball" won her fame in a night, says she has not heard anything that would tend to make her believe that she is to be married to her manager, Mr. Charles Froham.

AS A rule seats in first-class theaters in Europe cost more than in this country. A seat in the parquet of a London theater costs $2.62½, and one in the first balcony $1.75. Then the program costs from two to six cents and the fees to the attendants count up any-where from a dime to fifty cents. The theaters in this country are not only the best in the world as well as the cheapest, but they cover every imaginable taste and are suited to every purse.

SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERY DAY LIFE.

Queer Facts and Thrilling Adventures Which Show That Truth is Stranger Than Fiction.

"THERE is a fellow serving a life sentence in the penitentiary at Joliet who owes his incarceration to a dream of mine," said a Chicago detective to a St. Louis Globe-Democrat man. "In '87 a hackman was shot down on West Madison-st. by a man with whom he had trouble about a fare. The murderer got away, and nothing was heard of him for a year or more. Finally we got a tip that he was in the city, and I was detailed to round him up. I soon became convinced that he was hiding on the North Side, but to save me I could not locate him. I searched for two weeks without getting sight of my man or discovering his retreat. One morning I left my room, walked leisurely down to the Palmer House, looked at the clock and noticed that it was just 9:30. I bought a paper and sat down to read, but was disturbed by a man who asked me for a light. I handed him my cigar, looked up, saw that it was the man I was searching for, and clapped the jewelry on his wrists. The snap of the handcuffs awoke me. I had been dreaming. The dream was so vivid that I determined to visit the Palmer House. I did so, and noticed as I entered that it was just 9:30 o'clock. I bought a paper, sat down to read and was interrupted just as I had dreamed by the man I was in search of. Don't tell me there is nothing in dreams."

AN artist, writing to the London News with reference to an incident recently mentioned in that paper, says; "Some thirty years ago I was sketching on the shore at Lochgoil Head, when a shepherd accosted me. He even looked at my sketch, and drew my attention to a low-lying mass of rock jutting out from the shore that I had caught as faithfully as I could. 'Yes, sir,' he said, 'a curious thing occurred there about three weeks ago. Foxes, you well know, sir, are in the habit of coming down at low tide and eating the oysters out of their shells. One day I found one lying dead, and on examining it closely, observed that its tongue was held as if by a vice. The oyster was firmly attached to the rock, and poor foxy's tongue to the oyster, so the returning tide settled his fate.' I asked if he had ever come by this kind of thing before. 'No, sir, never before, though I believe it is not uncommon. He was a young fox, though full grown, and may be he was not up to the dodge of putting a stone between the shells. That is what I am told they, as a rule, do. Oh, they are cunning things, foxes, whatever!' I tell you the story as it was told to me. I believed it then, and I do so still."

"THE prettiest throw of the lasso I ever saw was down in New Mexico last summer," said D. C. Smith, a Western cattleman. "I had gone out to look at a bunch of cattle I thought of buying, and was standing in front of the owner's house discussing the proposed trade. A two-year-old child was playing about the lawn, when suddenly it clapped its hands and cried out as though highly elated. I turned my head, and saw, to my horror, that it was amusing itself with a monster rattlesnake that was just coiled to strike. The snake was shooting its forked tongue out, almost into the face of the child, and it was this action that so pleased the little one. At my side stood a Mexican cowboy with a lasso on his arm. Quick as a flash it went whizzing through the air and closed around the neck of the serpent just as it drew its head back for the fatal stroke. The father of the child nodded his head, remarked that it was a capital throw, and resumed our discussion with imperturbable gravity. Your Mexican is nothing if not stoical. It is the result of his Indian blood."

A CALCUTTA paper, the Indian Gentleman, tells the following most remarkable story: A few days ago Atkama Yatzry, a Bengalese gentleman, residing on the flat seven miles north of Shuttezat saw, as he affirms, an enormous serpent floating along in a fleecy white "tezarer" or "wind cloud." The cloud and its scaly passenger floated directly over Mr. Yatzry's farm and bore off in the direction of the "Great Blue Jungles" and disappeared from view. Over a score of men, women and boys who were working along the flat at the time of the phenomenal occurrence attest that they plainly saw the same hideous monster in his ethereal flight. One witness describes the serpent as being at least 200 feet in length and as big around as a man's body. All witnesses concur in saying that the head and foreparts of the creature resembled an alligator more than anything else. It was yellow and black-striped, according to all witnesses, and kept its body in continued motion as long as it remained in sight. The natives are said to be much excited over the matter.

THERE is a young lady on Capitol Hill, says the Washington Post, who has a musical cat. After nearly a year of hard work on the feline musician, she says it can sing the best portion of two well-known songs, "Home, Sweet Home" and "Auld Lang Syne," but without the usual variations. When this young lady wants pussy to sing she puts her on a velvet footstool and commands, "Puss, sing 'Home, Sweet Home,'" at the same time humming the air. Pussy always responds, singing the desired tune in a rather high falsetto voice, a little broken, but sufficiently well to be recognized by the hearers. Sometimes when this cat is on a moonlight expedition her voice can be heard above those of her companions in the feline, out-door, back-fence concert, ringing out "Auld Lang Syne," or "Home, Sweet Home." The young lady does not want her name mentioned, for fear she will be besieged by freak collectors or dime museum proprietors, who want to buy, beg, borrow or steal her musical pet.

THE London courts will be called upon soon to decide one of the most curious cases that ever puzzled legal brains. A lady was seated a few weeks ago in the Zoological Gardens, and for security's sake removed from her pocket to her lap a purse containing six sovereigns. The show elephant shortly afterwards came on its round, and, mistaking the brown purse for a bun, gracefully transferred it to its trunk and thence into its stomrch. The management of the Gardens were at once appealed to, and emetics were applied, but no more than two of the sovereigns and munched bits of the purse were removed. The solicitors for the lady are now, therefore, suing the Zoological Sociey for the missing four sovereigns, and, seeing that the Society possesses the elephant, and the elephant possesses the sovereigns, the plaintiff claims to have a clear case.—[London Chronicle.

MRS. SUSAN NEIL, a lady seventy years old, who lives with her son on a ranch in Maverick County, Texas, killed a full-grown panther with an ax. She was out in the yard, when some animal rushed passed her, which she thought was a dog until she turned around, and a full-grown panther had sprung into a small tree near her. She called to the dogs, and they came running out, but one of them immediately took up the panther's back trail and ran off. The others saw the beast, and made a dash for it. The panther sprang out of the tree and ran toward a pen where a number of kids were confined, but as he sprang on the fence the dog caught him by the ham, and they began fighting. The other dog, now returned, took a hand in the fun, but both kept a safe distance from the savage animal. Mrs. Neil seized an ax, and when the dog attracted the panther's attention she rushed up and dealt him a blow on the head which stunned him, and allowed her time to deal him a fatal blow. Mrs. Neil is much admired for her brave fight.

ELECTRICITY has become an important adjunct to the outfit of the modern dentist, but it is not likely that many will be called upon in the discharge of their professional duties to illuminate the cavernous mouth of an elephant, as recently happened in the practice of a leading New York specialist. A large show was on exhibition in a town in Michigan, but the showman's elephant, which was a tower of strength to the performance, was suddenly seized with the toothache, and the whole caravan was demoralized. It was found that the trouble arose from a decayed tooth. None of the local practitioners fancied the job of filling the cavity, and the proprietor of the show telegraphed to a New York dentist. The New Yorker went on by first train and, after first chloroforming the animal, he braced open the brute's jaws by two crossed hickory sticks, and from these suspended an electric lamp. This gave a light that enabled the filling of the tooth to be satisfactorily accomplished, and in an hour's time the show was in full blast, and the dentist, with his fee in his pocket, was journeying homeward.

GREAT excitement was created at Chadron, Neb., the other day by the discovery of a petrified man about two miles north of that city, near Natural Wall, one of the great wonders of the region. The body was found by Ed Rossiter, a well-known collector of that town, while engaged in securing turtle fossils. It is thought to be that of a man six feet tall, well developed and in a perfect state of preservation. It was found buried in clay and weighs over 500 pounds. The teeth are plainly visible, and the skull, head and lips are those of an African. The finder was offered $2,000 in cash for the specimen, but refused it.

A MUSTACHE is not regarded as a marketable commodity, says the London Million, but a man disposed of his upper lip ornament the other day to a beardless youth who envied him its possession. The two men were sitting in a cafe, when the youth, in a moment of guileless desire, said; "I will give you $12 for your mustache." "Done," replied the other with dramatic promptitude, and calling for a pair of scissors, he laid the mustache on the table. The young fellow protested that he was only joking, but his companion issued a County Court summons for the amount agreed upon and recovered it without much trouble.

TWENTY-FOUR years ago John Gilbert, a Pottstown, Penn., restauranteur, had one of his index fingers mangled in a feed-cutting machine. The doctor sewed up the wound, and it readily healed. Recently the finger got sore, and an examination revealed the ends of several threads. They were the stitches that had been put there a quarter of a century ago. The threads were removed, and the finger is healing.

A CURIOUS deception came to light in Paris recently in the course of a police raid on unmuzzled dogs. An old lady whose pet had been seized among the others complained loudly when her pug was captured that the police allowed that of her neighbor, a painter, to roam at will without a muzzle. The police inspector assured his visitor that the artist's dog was always muzzled and was somewhat taken aback on learning that the muzzle in question was merely painted on the animal's head.

NEW JERSEY comes to the front with a strawberry plant which bears fruit all the year, and Arkansas with a three-year-old negro boy who killed a rattlesnake just twice as old as himself, inside of which were found a water-moccasin over four feet long, a black snake of the same length, two dead toads and one live one, besides a large bullfrog. Again it is proper to remark that this is a great country.

Hydraulic Ram.

A hydraulic ram can only be operated by a running stream or fall of water. The ram is operated by a stream carried into it by a pipe ten or twelve feet long; this stream lifts a valve as soon as it has gained sufficient velocity, and shuts the pipes. The flowing stream, being thus suddenly stopped, is changed in its course into an air chamber, in which is a valve that is opened by the diverted stream As soon as this stream exhausts its force this valve closes, and the pressure of the condensed air in the chamber forces the water which has entered from the feed pipe into the discharging pipe. Then the valve in the feed pipe, being no longer pressed by the stream, drops, and the stream begins to flow again, and the process is thus repeated several times every minute. In this way about one-seventh of the water in the drive pipe is raised to any desired height, the quantity of water being in proportion to the height of the delivery, less as the height is greater.—[New York Times.

THE WORLD'S GROWTH.

WHEN WILL THE WORLD BE ENTIRELY PEOPLED?

The Present Population and Future Increase in the Globe's Cultivable Area—How Many People Can the World Hold?

In order to answer this query at all satisfactorily it is necessary to determine: First. The present population of the world and its probable increase. Second. The area capable of being cultivated for the yield of food and other necessaries of life. Third. The total number of people whom these lands would be able to maintain. I need hardly point out that a precise answer to these apparently simple questions is well nigh impossible.

PRESENT POPULATION OF THE WORLD.

This is a fundamental question for the inquiry proposed, but it is quite impossible to reply to it with any amount of confidence. Enumerations of the people have been made in all civilized States, but with respect to large parts of the world we are still completely in the dark. Of Africa we know next to nothing, while the long array of figures presented to us as the results of a census taken in China are not calculated to inspire confidence. I have taken some care to form a true estimate of the population of Africa, and I cannot believe in that continent supporting more than 127,000,000, instead of the two, three or even four hundred million allotted to it by certain statisticians. Even 127,000,000 is a high figure, for it means eleven people to the square mile, while in Australia there are not one and a half, and in South America five only.

THE WORLD'S POPULATION IN 1890.

	Total.	To a square Mile.
Europe	328,200,000	101
Asia	850,000,000	57
Africa	127,000,000	11
Australia	4,730,000	1-4
North America	89,250,000	14
South America	36,420,000	5
Total	1,467,600,000	31

*Exclusive of 300,000 in the polar regions.

CULTIVABLE AREA.

I shut out from consideration all those territories of the polar regions which lie beyond the limits within which the cultivation of cereals is possible. I divide the remainder of the lands of the globe into three regions. The first I describe as fertile, meaning that it is fertile so far only as within it lies most of the land which is capable of remunerative cultivation. It cannot be assumed for an instant that the whole or even the greater part of it could ever be converted into fields yielding the fruits of the earth. My second region includes the "steppes," or poorer grass lands; and as within the "fertile" region we meet with comparatively sterile tracts, so with these "steppes" there exist large areas which can be rendered highly productive, especially where means of irrigating the land are available. The third region includes the deserts, within which fertile oases are few.

The area of these regions in square miles I estimate as follows, exclusive of the polar regions:

	Fertile Region.	Steppe.	Desert.
Europe	2,888,000	667,000	.....
Asia	9,280,000	4,230,000	1,200,000
Africa	5,760,000	3,528,000	2,226,000
Australasia	1,167,000	1,507,000	614,000
N. America	4,946,000	1,405,000	95,000
S. America	4,228,000	2,564,000	45,000
Total	28,269,000	13,901,000	4,180,00

INCREASE OF POPULATION.

On this point not only are our statistics still very incomplete, but conditions, social or otherwise, may arise that would materially affect the present movement of the population. Weighing all the data to be had, and carefully considering all the causes which are at all likely to give an impetus to the growth of population or retard it in the various quarters of the world, I assume that the increase in the course of a decade will amount to 10 per cent.

Summarized, the results of my careful estimates are as follows:

	Increase in a decade. Per cent.
Europe	8.7
Asia	6.0
Africa	10.0
Australasia	30.0
North America	20.0
South America	15.0
The whole earth	8.0

CONCLUSION.

Accepting these figures as correct, it becomes an easy matter to compute the increase of the population. By the close of this century the 1,468 millions who now dwell upon the earth will have increased to 1,587 millions; in the year 1950 there will be 2,333 millions; in the year 2000, 3,426 millions, and in the year 2072, or 182 years hence, there will be 5,979 millions. These estimates are not presented as a prophecy. I have already hinted at voluntary checks to the growth of population which will come into play as civilization advances and the demands for the comforts of this life shall be more general. At all events, so far as we are personally concerned, 182 years is a long period to look forward to; but if we look back a similar number of years and remember that William III. and Marlborough were then still among us, we are bound to admit that it is but a short period in the lifetime of a nation.

POSSIBLE POPULATION.

The task of estimating the number of people whom this earth of ours would be capable of supplying with food and other necessaries of life, once it had been fairly brought under cultivation, is very difficult. There are at present some vegetarians. These would maintain that if their peculiar views were accepted, three men could live where one does now, and there would be no further need of keeping up large herds of cattle and sheep. I am not sufficiently utopian to believe that mankind generally will ever accept these principles.

Again, it has been asserted that our present methods of cultivation are capable of vast improvement; that the earth might be made to yield much larger harvests than it yields now, and that population might thus be permitted to increase without correspondingly increasing the cultivated areas. This is no doubt true as respects many countries, but it is hardly true of the world at large. Making all reasonable allowance, however, for these suggestions, I take as a basis for my estimate the standard of life, such as we find it existing in various climates and among various peoples. Upon this basis I calculate that "fertile regions" would be able to support 207 human beings to the square mile, the present mean population of those regions.

The "steppes" with their large tracts of land capable of cultivation, I believe to be capable of supporting ten inhabitants to the square mile, while the "deserts" would be fully peopled if they had even one inhabitant to the square mile.

I do not take into consideration the colonization of the tropical regions by Europeans, because I am constrained to maintain that the tropical regions are no field for European emigrants, and because it is not necessary that the consumer of food should live in the country which produces it.

From all these considerations I assume that this world of ours, if brought fully into cultivation, can supply 5,994,000,000 human beings with food and other necessary products of the vegetable kingdom.—[Goldthwaite's Geographical Magazine.

THE HUMAN EYE.

Now Put to Uses Never Thought of in Ancient Times.

The last 100 years have increased the need and capacity for work upon small objects near at hand. One of the questions occuring to the mind is, do these different and increased demands bring increased facility and capacity to the human eye? Eyes are now used in ways never imagined by our remote ancestors, possibly never dreamed of in the Oriental countries. Whatever there may have been in the way of sculpture among the Greeks demanding artistic and accurate vision, there was no typesetting, no electric telegraphy, no stenography and no typewriter.

The eye of the patriarch Job was constituted at birth and went through life to old age very much such an optical instrument as that of the English squire who devotes himself to an outdoor life in the eighteenth or nineteenth century; but Job had no printed books to beguile the tedium and pain of his seat in the sand and ashes. The examination of the mummies in the Egyptian mausoleums shows that there has been no change in the anatomical conformation of the human ear in four thousand years, and there is no evidence that there has been any in that of the human eye for examination centuries after it has ceased to see prevents us from proving it.

It is safe to say that it has not changed in any essential of anatomical form during the time of the human race upon the earth. But, as we have just intimated, the demands upon it and its occupations are much more exacting and very different from that obtained among the classic Greeks and Romans or the patriarchal Arabians.

The tendency of the people of our civilization to live in large towns, in the bad air and with the absence of light incidental to such life, may have brought the human eye into many more dangers than those that come to it in a rural occupation. Yet accidents to the human eye in rural life are not at all rare. It may be that civilization generally attains the loftiest plane in large cities where the intellectual activity is most intense. With this come increasing demands upon the visual power, and often under improper conditions.

But if the nineteenth century civilization of great towns has brought great dangers to the sight, it has also achieved great triumphs in the matter of examining the eye, so that we may determine and increase its power for work and find out and cure its diseases. It is perfectly possible, by means of the instruments of the nineteen century, to exactly learn the optical condition of an eye, to decide just what glasses, if any, are needed for its perfect working; and it is also possible to look in upon it, and by the appearance of its tissues and its blood vessels to decide as to the existence of serious disease, when there are few other symptoms that point to it, when there may be none besides to be found in the body that positively proves it.

I may mention two classes of disease, one constitutional and the other local, which illustrate this latter statement: the eye mirror opthalmoscope is the instrument by which such things are settled. Bright's disease, a name carrying dread to many a household, is the constitutional disease to which I refer. In not a few cases the diagnosis of it is made by the examination of the retina with the eye mirror. The expert will make no mistake if the eye gives evidence of it, for its signs are positive, in minute bleedings from the blood vessels and peculiar fawn colored spots on the retina.

The surgeon dreads to find them, because they are evidence of an advanced stage of the malady which prematurely destroys so many lives. Bright's disease is, in fact, a degeneration of many of the tissues of the body, the walls of the arteries being among them. In no part of the body can this degeneration be so readily detected as in the retina of the eye.—[Cosmopolitan.

The Pulse-Beats of Animals.

When a healthy horse is enjoying perfect rest his pulse beats at the rate of forty times per minute, that of an ox fifty-two times, while in sheep and hogs the average cardiac pulsations are seventy-six per minute. As a rule arterial pulsations may be felt wherever an artery crosses a bone or is otherwise forced outward too near the surface. In horses the pulse-beats are usually examined on the chord which crosses over the bone of the lower jaw, just in front of the large, rounded "hinge curve." In cattle the pulsations may be taken by placing the hand at the middle of the fifth rib; in hogs by placing the finger on the bony ridge above the eye. In sheep there is but one recognized way of making pulse examinations, by placing the hand on the left side, where the beating of the heart may be felt.—[St. Louis Republic.

Navy-blue and brown outnumber all other shades for street colors.